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PP RUEHBC RUEHDE RUEHKUK RUEHROV
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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4736
INFO RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC
RUEHEE/ARAB LEAGUE COLLECTIVE
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 0729
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 8778 PRIORITY
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHINGTON DC
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC
RHMFISS/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 0515
RUEHTRO/AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI 5265

UNCLAS TRIPOLI 000320

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB/IFD/OMA JULIA JACOBY; ENERGY FOR GINA ERICKSON; COMMERCE FOR NATE MASON; CAIRO FOR ALEX SEVERENS; PARIS AND LONDON

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: TRIPOLI RESPONSE TO FY09 PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO
CENTRAL GOVERNMENTS WHOSE BUDGETS ARE NOT TRANSPARENT

REF: STATE 00028885

(SBU) This is a response to the request for information on the
transparency of Libya's budget. Replies are keyed to reftel:

-Is the central government expected to receive or is it already
receiving U.S. foreign assistance funding using FY 09 funds?
Answer: Yes.

-Is the host country's budget publicly available?
Answer: Libya's overall budget figures are available online and
in print media, mainly in official news articles with quotes
from government officials. However, more precise budget
details, such as expenditures by sector, are not readily
available.

-Are incomes and expenditures included in the publicly-available
budget?
Answer: The overall expenditures are included in the
publicly-available budget information.

-What is post's assessment of the extent to which the
publicly-available budget accurately reflects actual government
incomes and expenditures?

-Answer: The publicly-available budget accurately reflects
actual government incomes and expenditures to the best of our
knowledge. Transparency of government budgeting and spending
remains an issue for the Libyan government, which is reputed to
suffer from corruption and inefficiency.

STEVENS